

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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O 021558Z JUN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6627  
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE  
USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 05027

UNIDO

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652:GDS  
TAGS: AORG, APER, UN  
SUBJECT: PERSONNEL DEVELOPMENTS: UN, GENEVA

REF: STATE 135960

1. U.S.MISSION TO UNIDO OFFERS FOLLOWING COMMENTS ON PARA 5 REFTEL.
2. GEOFFREY HOLMES (UK, D-1), ALTHOUGH NOMINALLY STILL HEAD OF PERSONNEL SERVICES SECTION IN UNIDO, HAS BEEN ACTING DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION SINCE SUDDEN DEATH OF PREVIOUS DIRECTOR (RISHOLM, SWEDEN) LAST FALL. HOLMES, WHO HAS PREVIOUSLY HAD SEVERAL LENGTHY STINTS AS ACTING DIVISION DIRECTOR WOULD VERY MUCH LIKE TO BE GIVEN THE DIRECTORSHIP ON A PERMANENT BASIS. WE UNDERSTAND THAT UK HAS MADE SOME INTERVENTIONS ON HOLMES'S BEHALF AND THAT HOLMES HAS PRESSED HIS CASE PERSONALLY WITH GEORGE DAVIDSON, WHO ALLEGEDLY IS SYMPATHETIC.

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3. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR KHANE APPARENTLY IS NOT ENAMORED OF HOLMES. AROUND THE TURN OF THE YEAR, KHANE INFORMALLY NOTIFIED NEW YORK OF HIS INTENTION TO NOMINATE MOHAMMED SIDDIQUI (PAKISTAN) FOR THE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIRECTORSHIP BUT, AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED, PROPOSAL WAS ALLOWED TO DIE (VIENNA 2791). DURING INFORMAL DINNER AT PERMREP'S RESIDENCE MAY 31, HOLMES TOLD PERMREP WITH SOME BITTERNESS

THAT KHANE HAS NOW NOMINATED PHILIPPE CARRE (FRANCE), CURRENT ACTING DIRECTOR OF THE INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR INDUSTRIAL STUDIES, FOR THE POST. CARRE HAS RECENTLY CONVERTED TO ISLAM AND ADOPTED THE FIRST NAME OF FERLANG. CURRENT GOSSIP THROUGHOUT THE SECRETARIAT IS THAT THE CONVERSION WAS POLITICAL RATHER THAN RELIGIOUS, DESIGNED TO CURRY FAVOR WITH KHANE. REGARDLESS OF THE TRUTH OF THESE CHARGES, CARRE SEEMS TO HAVE NO SPECIAL QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE NEW POST. HOLMES SUGGESTS THAT NEW YORK MAY SIT ON THE CARRE NOMINATION PENDING SOME DECISION ON KHANE'S OWN FUTURE. IT IS CLEAR THAT HOLMES WOULD BE INTERESTED IN MOVING ELSEWHERE IF HE IS PASSED OVER FOR DIRECTORSHIP IN UNIDO.

4. DESCRIPTION OF HOLMES CONTAINED REFTTEL (COMPETENT, FAIR, SOMEWHAT RIGID, DULL) IS ON THE MARK. HE HAS A GOOD REPUTATION IN UNIDO AND IS WELL-LIKED ALTHOUGH IT IS GENERALLY THOUGHT THAT HE DOES NOT HAVE THE FORCE OF PERSONALITY TO STAND UP TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR WHO TAKES A PERSONAL HAND IN EVEN SEEMINGLY MINOR PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATIVE DECISIONS. HOLMES IS AWARE OF THE NOMINATION OF A RUSSIAN FOR THE PERSONNEL JOB IN GENEVA; HIS REACTION IS INTERESTING: "HE'S A TOUGH NUT AND AN EXCELLENT PERSONNEL MAN -- JUST WHAT THEY NEED IN GENEVA".

5. IF HOLMES SHOULD LEAVE UNIDO, EGGOUGH (NIGERIA, P-5)  
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CURRENTLY CHIEF OF SECRETARIAT RECRUITMENT, IS LOGICAL SUCCESSOR FROM WITHIN THE RANKS AS HEAD OF PERSONNEL SERVICES SECTION. HE APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN RUNNING THINGS WHILE HOLMES HAS BEEN HANDLING BROADER ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES. DIETSCHY (FRANCE) HAS LEFT UNIDO AND BEEN REPLACED BY FRANCISCO VILLANUEVA-COLLADO (SPAIN) WHO IS STILL AN UNKNOWN QUANTITY.

6. THERE ARE ONLY ELEVEN PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS IN UNIDO PERSONNEL AREA. NONE OF THESE IS OCCUPIED BY A RUSSIAN OR OTHER EASTERN EUROPEAN. IN FACT, ACCORDING TO APRIL 1978 STAFF LIST, THERE ARE ONLY TWO EASTERN EUROPEANS IN ENTIRE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES UNIT (SOME 280 POSITIONS) -- A BULGARIAN AND A CZECH WHO OCCUPY GENERAL SERVICE POSTS IN THE COMPUTER SERVICES DIVISION HEADED BY AN AMERICAN. THIS SUGGESTS THE USSR HAS IN THE PAST HAD LIMITED INTEREST IN THESE POSITIONS. IT MIGHT ALSO, OF COURSE, GIVE THEM A SUPPORTIVE ARGUMENT ON GROUNDS OF "BALANCE" IF THEY SHOULD DECIDE TO PUT FORWARD A CANDIDATE TO FILL ANY VACANCY THAT MIGHT OCCUR. LEARY

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